

*H2/A*  
Docket: 1695 CIP CON III

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Dominick L. Mastri, et al

Con of Serial No.: 09/497,647

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: SURGICAL STAPLER

Asst. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examining the present application, please enter the following  
Preliminary Amendment:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

*"This is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/497,647 filed on*  
*February 3, 2000, now abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S.*  
*Application Serial No. 09/119,543, filed Jul 20, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,032,849, which*

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2-19 without prejudice.

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REMARKS

By the present Amendment, claims 2-19 have been cancelled. Claim 1 remains in the application.

Respectfully Submitted,



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